

Waterboro Community Garden Committee Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2016

Present: Amy and Tony Lucarelli, Sandy Jorgensen, Donna Berardi, Nancy Brandt and John Gale. Renters and members of Ossipee Meadows Garden Club Brigit McCallum, Judy Carll and Oksana Sigleski.

Meeting called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Approval of minutes from May 4, 2016 meeting. Plant sale time should be 9-12 not 6-12. Sandy's last name is spelled wrong. Should be Jorgensen not Jorgenson. Donna Berardi made the motion to accept the minutes with the changes. Tony Lucarelli seconded, V-P

Open Issues:

Sitting bench: Brigit, part of the Waterboro Community Arts, have made mosaic pavers to be installed on a cement block bench. Would be on the right hand side from the shed and requesting the Community Garden Committee to pay for materials, could use the funds from the plant sale. If the committee is not interested, will look elsewhere to put the pavers. Sandy commented to get ground level will take labor and costs. Amy informed everyone that this is the first time it is on the agenda for all to hear about it as it was cancelled from a previous meeting. Brigit has asked and was informed will need to dig a foot deep, use rebar and mortar. Judy suggested putting a budget together for the project and present it with the other projects, like the fencing. Sandy agrees, need a plan.

Securing the fence: Current fence does not go to the ground in areas and critters are utilizing the space to enter the garden area. Amy suggested using landscape pegs to hold the fence down to the ground. Landscape stakes were also suggested. Tony estimated probably would need 100. Judy suggested using the landscape pegs and she has some to donate. Committee members agreed to try the pegs first on the back of the fence.

Boy Scout project: Missy will be conducted a walkthrough of the project on Wednesday at 5 P.M. Any questions at this time, will be put off until the Wednesday walkthrough as Missy is the point person on this project. This has been a project for about 9 months with a layout of the project given to members at a prior meeting held in March. Regarding the perennials within the propose project, Amy explained that herself, Tony, Missy and Nancy put in the plants from a plant sale so they would not perish.

Never was intended to be a continuous bed-just wanted to save those plants that were left over. Sandy and Brigit raised concerns that the project will impede gardeners to be able to go to the compost and loam pile. These concerns need to be brought up at the Wednesday walkthrough.

Judy requested to make the path smooth so people can get to the piles. Just received funds from the plant sale so use it. Concerns were raised over the wheelbarrows condition and being put upside down on the platform. Sandy would like to see the wheelbarrows off the platform and put by the piles. Amy explained they were put upside down on the platform in the fall for winter storage. Do not have to be there, just make sure they are not left with stuff in them, like rocks and water. Amy also suggested buying gorilla carts, which hold a lot and very easy to pull and to dump the dirt. Renters would like to see it approved for the carts after the fence is fixed.

Pest Issues: Amy has talked to the state about varmints. Several suggestions were made:

Have a trap at night and need to let any critters caught and relocated by morning, cannot keep them in the traps all day. If not regular trapping, it will become a bigger problem. Judy has a trap and is willing to set it, just need to know where. Jon is will also. Jon will work with Lenny Daigneault on the traps. This is considered consistent hazing, so the animals do not get use to a trap one day and not the next.

Skunks like marshmallow with anise.

Groundhogs like veggies and fruits.

Can put deterrent granules around the fence

When fencing around the shed, leave a space so any animals can escape before closing up the enclosure.

Night eyes-predator eyes, electric fencing also works.

Plant Sale report: Brigit reported there was a total sale of plants of \$1,231.74. This was the best ever sale and proceeds will be divided between the two committees. Some of the leftover plants will go to the plant sale at the library, also can buy the plants now and will be for sale for \$3.00 each. Any of the shrubs should be used around the garden area. Donna asked if the funds from the plant sale at the library will be split with the two committees or will it go to the library. Brigit explained it will go to the Friends of the Library to be use on the flower gardens at the library. It was agreeable with all present for funds to go to the Friends of the Library.

Perennial Beds: Perennial beds in the front of the garden area are in need for a weeding. Judy has adopted the garden between the gate and the sign.

Sandy would like any of the leftover plants be used in the beds. Also around the shed, but she only wants to work on the perennial bed only. Oksana will help with the perennial beds. Tony suggested everyone do a little which will grow to be bigger.

Task: Sandy feels the task list that was generated and put in the garden, fell by the wayside. Sandy agrees to handle the task list, but question how we deal with people doing their 6 hours of volunteer time with others that don't. Jon stated that this area looks pretty incredible from where it was 3 years ago.

Jon asked about is someone garden is dry and needs water is it ok to water? Amy feels it is part of being a community garden. Donna suggested sending out emails to ask renters.

Clean up: Amy put out suggestions to wait and set at next month's meeting or come in an hour earlier. Donna would like to not hold the clean up on the meeting night. Further discussion was held with times of 6-8 pm. Tony suggested Wednesday as the Transfer Station is open so it would be easy to dispose of any clean up materials. Donna suggested the 2nd Wednesday. Judy suggested a task list. Discussion was held if clean up should be every week. Concerns with every week is people getting burnt out. Amy ask who wants to take charge of the task list and be in charge of work times. One big thing that needs to be removed is the green picnic table. Never was part of the garden, was put there for no reason. It has been set it and forget it. Conclusion was work detail will be each month on the 4th Wednesday. Renters will be notified so they can do their volunteer required time.

Brigit feels there is a problem with asking renters to weed by their beds. Concerns were raised why the renters of the Post Office plot were allowed to rent again as it had not been maintained. Brigit feels it has ramifications of not keeping the weeds out for other plots. Sandy agrees. After much discussion, Donna suggested fiving them a chance to have it maintained by July 15th and the weeds can't hinder other gardens with the weeds. Jon agrees. Amy explained they had a rough year last year and should be given another chance. Tony added that it is a community garden. Nancy will send correspondence to the renters.

Cold frame bed: Bed can be used for extra pantry space or for holding bed for perennial bed from sale. Donna made motion, Tony seconded. V-P. Amy suggested adding landscape cloth so it will not have to be weeded.

Emails: There have been lots of emails, some were for the plant sale and have received a request to remove a renter from the list. There was a total of 21 emails in a week. Need to keep the emails to a minimum.

Meeting reminders: Donna suggested sending a draft copy of the minutes with the meeting notices. Amy stated preciously had done so but edits kept coming in and was a constant editing job. Donna suggested send with reminder with agenda on Wednesday. Sandy would like to have a monthly report from the Town's Treasurer also included with the agenda. Was in agreement with all present.

Adjournment was at 7:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Brandt,
Secretary/Treasurer